



SR1761

LRB099 21430 MST 47452 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The State of Illinois has had a long-standing statutory goal of spending 20% of all procurement dollars on minority and women-owned businesses; and

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WHEREAS, Investing in minority and women-owned businesses is a central economic development strategy for the State to ensure the businesses that prosper from the State's need for goods and services reflects the diversity of the entire State; and

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WHEREAS, Legal services is one of the components that the State's statutory goal for spending 20% for minority and women-owned businesses apply towards; and

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WHEREAS, The last year where full data is available on actual spending with minority and women-owned businesses is FY2015; and

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WHEREAS, In FY2015, the State spent more than \$35,000,000 on outside law firms in legal services; and

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WHEREAS, Only 4% of the State's legal services in FY15 were with minority and women-owned firms; and

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1 WHEREAS, The total spent on African-American owned law
2 firms in FY15 was under \$200,000, which is significantly less
3 than 1% of the total spent on legal services the entire fiscal
4 year; and

5 WHEREAS, Governor Rauner's administration was only
6 responsible for half of the legal services spent in FY15 as the
7 Governor was not inaugurated until the middle of that fiscal
8 year; and

9 WHEREAS, While complete data for FY16 is not yet available,
10 there have been a series of procurements for legal services
11 that did not include any goal for minority or women-owned
12 firms, including one posted April 8th for a Swaps Bond Counsel
13 for the Governor's Office of Management and Budget; and

14 WHEREAS, Unless the Rauner administration makes a
15 significant effort to increase the participation of minority
16 and women-owned firms in legal spending, the administration is
17 likely on track to dramatically fall short of the statutory
18 goal of 20% participation; therefore, be it

19 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Rauner
21 administration is urged to comply with the statutory goal of
22 20% participation with minority and women-owned firms,

1 particularly as it relates to professional services and legal
2 services; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Rauner administration is urged to make
4 every effort for FY16 to satisfy the 20% goal for participation
5 with minority and women-owned firms in professional services as
6 that is the first full fiscal year completely administered by
7 the Rauner administration; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 delivered to Governor Rauner.